Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A context detecting apparatus comprising:

a housing shaped to allow the apparatus to be positioned in a plurality of orientations each corresponding to at least one particular context,

means to detect the orientation of the apparatus from among the plurality of orientations,

communications means for communicating the detected orientation to a device, and

means for changing an operating state of the device based on the detected orientation communicated to the device by the communication means,

wherein changing the operating state of the device has no effect on an operating state of the apparatus, and

wherein the housing comprises a regular or irregular solid having a plurality of faces each having unique indicia associated therewith, to allow a user to place the solid at a particular orientation based on which operating state of the device corresponding to one of the unique indicia is desired by the user.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously Presented) A context detecting apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the detection means corresponds to one or more sensors adapted to sense the orientation of the apparatus.

4. (Previously Presented) A context detecting apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the orientation is transmitted to the device by means of a cable.

5. (Previously Presented) A context detecting apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the orientation is communicated to the device by wireless means.

6. (Previously Presented) A context detecting apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the apparatus is configured to identify one or more orientations with one or more corresponding contexts.

7. (Previously Presented) A context detecting apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the apparatus is a computer peripheral and wherein each orientation of the computer peripheral corresponds to a specific user context when using a defined plurality of associated computers.

8. (Previously Presented) A device adapted to be responsive to a context detecting apparatus as claimed in claim 1.

9. (Previously Presented) A context detecting apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device is a personal computer adapted to switch between different operating states in response to the orientation of the context detecting apparatus.

10. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 9 wherein the different operating states include the personal computer going into standby, being locked, filtering, storing, buffering, setting authorization states or otherwise manipulating incoming email and/or messages.

11. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 9 wherein the different operating states correspond to choice of software and desktop layout of the personal computer.

12. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 9 adapted to be configurable by a user to allow the definition of and switching between different operating states.

13. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 9, further comprising means to control a second device in response to context information received from the context detecting apparatus, the second device corresponding at least one of a telephone and a speaker.

14. (Currently Amended) A context detection system comprising:

a peripheral device, adapted to output a signal corresponding to its orientation, and

a computer communicatively connected to the peripheral device and adapted to change its operating state in response to the signal output by the peripheral device, thereby allowing the control of the operating state of the computer based on the orientation of the peripheral device,

wherein the operating state of the computer has no effect on an operating state of the peripheral device,

wherein the peripheral device comprises a regular or irregular solid having a plurality of faces each having unique indicia associated therewith, to allow a user to place the solid at a particular orientation based on which operating state of the computer corresponding to one of the unique indicia is desired by the user.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting user context, the method comprising the steps of:

orienting, by a user, a context detection sensing means in a physical orientation corresponding to a chosen context,

communicating, by the context detection sensing means to a device, the chosen context,

interpreting, by the device, the chosen context as communicated to the device by the context detection sensing means, ~~and~~

modifying the behavior of the device in accordance with the chosen context, and

enabling a user to set, via a setup mode, a plurality of different operating states for the device corresponding to each of the plurality of orientations of the context detection sensing means,

wherein the enabling step comprises:

placing the context detection sensing means in a first orientation and assigning a first operating state of the device when the context detection sensing means is in the first orientation;

placing the context detection sensing means in a second orientation and assigning a second operating state of the device when the context detection sensing means is in the second orientation; and

repeatedly placing the context detection sensing means in different orientations and assignment different operating states of the device, until all possible orientations have been assigned,

wherein the modifying of the behavior of the device has no effect on an operating state of the context detection sensing means.

16. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1 ~~where~~ wherein the solid corresponds to ~~housing comprises~~ a cube in which the unique indicia corresponds to ~~having a plurality of faces each having~~ a unique printed label provided ~~thereon~~ on each of the faces of the cube~~, to allow a user to place the cube at a particular orientation based on which operating state of the device corresponding to one of the unique printed labels is desired by the user~~.

17. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the detecting means includes conducting fluid provided within the cube, wherein the conducting fluid closes one of a plurality of switches provided within the cube when the cube is positioned at a particular orientation, to thereby provide an electronic indication of the particular orientation.

18. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 16, further comprising:

setting means for enabling the user to set a plurality of different operating states for the device corresponding to each of the plurality of orientations of the apparatus.

19. (Canceled).

20. (New) A context detection system as claimed in claim 14 wherein the solid corresponds to a cube in which the unique indicia corresponds to a unique printed label provided on each of the faces of the cube.